the white web mode occurs independent of a speed of the printing press.

Claim 17 (new): The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising ascertaining the change in a processor.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz. Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Interview Summary

On April 22, 2003, applicant's representative William Gehris (Reg. No 38,156) and Examiner Yan discussed Jurekwitz in relation to claim 1 in detail by telephone. Applicant's representative asserted that Jurkewitz never shows a white web mode. No agreement was reached.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz.

Claim 1 recites "increasing an infeed tension in the web between the infeed and the printing units in response to a signal indicating a change to a printing mode from a white web mode." Claim 6 recites a "controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit in response to a signal indicating a transition between the printing mode and the white web mode."

Applicants have again reviewed Jurkewitz. Jurkewitz does not teach a signal indicating a change from a printing mode to a white web mode, which is when the web is being run and there is no printing.

The change from a printing mode to a white web mode, or via versa, creates a

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discontinuous tension response in the web. In other words, the tension jumps or decreases, due to the application of printing ink and wetting solution, as described very clearly in the present invention with respect to Fig. 1.

As shown clearly in Jurkewitz at Figs. 2 and 3, as the press is run up in speed, and thus time is increasing, the tension does not jump or increase in a discontinuous or impulse fashion. Thus, Jurkewitz is always printing, or if not, there is absolutely no determination or indication of a mode change from a white web mode to a printing mode. If there were, the tension would jump discontinuously, i.e. in an impulse fashion (See Fig. 1 of the present invention).

The fact that Jurkewitz is always in either a stopped mode (which is not a white web mode) or a printing mode is also clear from the disclosure. Jurkewitz states at col. 4, lines 16 et. seq. that even while the press is being run up to an operating speed S2, the press is printing. "The value for S1, may be for example, in the range between 20 and 150 copies per hour." Thus even at S1, a slow speed, as shown in Fig. 2 of Jurkewitz, Jurkewitz is printing copies and is not in a white web mode

Jurkwitz does not show or discuss a white web mode, and clearly does discuss any signal indicative of such a change. If a white web change were to occur as the speed is run up to operating speed as time increases, the tension in Fig. 2 or 3 would show a jump, as the tension change in the mode change is independent of speed.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to claims 1 and 6 and dependent claims 2, 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Saiano does not disclose controlling tension as a function of a transition between a printing mode and the white web mode or generation of a signal indication such a transition.

In view of the comments with respect to claims 1 and 6 above, withdrawal of the rejection to dependent claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 is also respectfully requested.

New Claims

New claims 13 to 17 discuss further features of the present invention. Support for the changes is found for example in the specification with the disclosure related to Fig. 3. Jurkewitz does not show or discuss these features either.
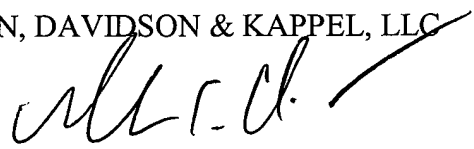
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action. If any fee is required at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully Submitted,

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